

## CLAIMS

1. A slide projector comprising projection means for directly projecting an image from a slide perpendicularly onto a projection surface, the projection means being such that the projected image of the slide lies, in use, in a substantially planar projection surface, the projection means comprising:

a light source;

at least two vertically juxtaposed slides parallel to each other; and

a projecting lens movable between a first position, directly above the at least two slides, and a second position away from the first position, thereby to allow easy access to the slides.

2. A slide projector according to claim 1, wherein the image is projected vertically from the slide onto a substantially planar projection surface.

3. A slide projector according to claim 1, wherein the at least two slides are in the horizontal plane.

4. A slide projector according to claim 1, wherein the projector means comprises rotation means for rotating at least one of the slides.

5. A slide projector according to claim 4, wherein the rotation means is in the form of a rotatable carousel.

6. A slide projector according to claim 5, wherein the rotatable carousel is able to rotate the slide at a predetermined speed.

7. A slide projector according to claim 1, wherein the projection means further comprises mounting means for holding at least one of the slides in a fixed position.

8. A slide projector according to claim 7, wherein the fixed slide is positioned directly below the rotatable slide.

9. A slide projector according to claim 8, wherein the projection means further comprises means for retaining the slides on the carousel and the mounting means respectively, and for keeping the slides in close contact therewith.

10. A slide projector according to claim 9, wherein the retaining means further comprises means for providing of an air flow above and below the slides.

11. A slide projector according to claim 10, wherein the air flow providing means is such as to provide a sub-atmospheric pressure below the slides, thereby retaining them in their respective position.

12. A planetarium having a slide projector constructed in accordance with Claim 1.
13. A planetarium having a slide projector constructed in accordance with Claim 7.
14. A planetarium according to claim 13, wherein the fixed slide is such as to display, in use, an image of a night horizon.
- 5 15. A planetarium according to claim 12, wherein the projector means comprises rotation means for rotating at least one of the slides.
16. A planetarium according to claim 15, wherein the rotatable slide is such as to display, in use, an image of a starfield.
17. A planetarium according to claim 12, wherein the rotatable slide is such as to display, in  
10 use, an image of a planet and any celestial bodies associated therewith.
18. A planetarium according to claim 12, wherein the rotatable slide is such as to display, in use, an image of a solar system and any celestial bodies associated therewith.